



Department of Justice

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FORMER MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY TO OBSTRUCT JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Acting Assistant Attorney General John C. Richter of the Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney Marcos Daniel Jiménez of the Southern District of Florida announced today that former Monroe County Attorney James T. Hendrick was indicted by a federal grand jury in Miami on charges of conspiring to obstruct a grand jury investigation of former Key West, Florida, Mayor John “Jack” London.

Today’s indictment of Hendrick, 57, of Key West, Florida, superseded London’s 2004 indictment for tax fraud and making false statements to the FBI. London, the former Key West Mayor, was indicted earlier this year on charges of a 1997 tax perjury and three counts of false statements to FBI agents in 2002 and 2003.

The current indictment alleges that in 1997, London received \$29,000, while serving as a Monroe County Commissioner, from a consultant who had been hired by a real estate developer to assist with obtaining building permits from the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners. London allegedly used the money to satisfy an outstanding lien against a residential property London owned in Cork, Ireland. In 2002, when FBI agents confronted London about his receipt of the \$29,000, he allegedly misled the investigators regarding the origin of the funds. Beginning in July 2003, and continuing into March 2004, Hendrick allegedly acted as a conduit between London and another individual known to the grand jury to concoct a false story as to the true nature of the \$29,000 payment to London. Hendrick did so allegedly knowing that the false information would be conveyed to the federal grand jury investigating the matter.

The case was investigated by the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division. This case is being handled by Brenda K. Morris, Deputy Chief with the Public Integrity Section of the United States Department of Justice, headed by Section Chief Noel L. Hillman, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Clark, Public Corruption Unit, Southern District of Florida, Miami Office.

An indictment is merely an allegation. Defendants are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty.

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